



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

JAN 22 2010

The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner
Ranking Member
House Select Committee on Energy Independence
and Global Warming
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Sensenbrenner:

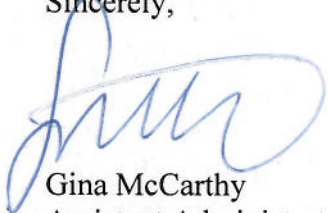
Thank you for your letter of December 2, 2009, co-signed by three of your colleagues, to Administrator Jackson of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pertaining to the disclosure of emails from the Climatic Research Unit of the University of East Anglia (CRU). I am pleased to respond on her behalf.

As you know, Administrator Jackson recently signed the final Endangerment and Cause or Contribute Findings for Greenhouse Gases under section 202(a) of the Clean Air Act (74 FR 66496, December 15, 2009). Before taking that action, the EPA carefully considered the potential implications of the CRU emails for the scientific record compiled by the Agency over the course of several years and in light of comments received in response to the April 2009 notice of proposed endangerment findings. EPA staff responsible for assembling the scientific record reviewed many of the emails themselves. Based on that review, the Agency weighed the potential implications of the emails and concluded that they do not alter our current understanding of the state of climate change science as reflected in the scientific record for the endangerment determinations. EPA discussed specific CRU-related issues, as well as other technical issues relating to climate change data and analyses, in the response to comments document that accompanied the final endangerment determination, which can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/endangerment.html>. The scientific evidence of the cause and effects of climate change include numerous independent datasets and hundreds of papers published in peer-reviewed literature that together make an overwhelming case that human activities are significantly contributing to dangerous climate change. For that reason, we are confident that the science underlying the final findings is sound.

Your letter also asks for any documents EPA may have related to communications or other interactions with the CRU from March 2007 through December 1, 2009. We have conducted a search and have determined that we do not have any documents responsive to your request.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have any further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Diann Frantz in EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-3668.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gina McCarthy', is written over the printed name.

Gina McCarthy
Assistant Administrator